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S/N 10/567944

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus, comprising:
a probe unit having a plurality of electroacoustic conversion devices; a main unit;
and a cable that connects the probe unit to the main unit,
wherein the probe unit comprises:
an electroacoustic conversion unit including electroacoustic conversion devices
with M rows and N columns, in which sub-arrays are arranged at least two-dimensionally
with J rows and K columns, each of the sub-arrays including electroacoustic conversion
devices with m rows and n columns, where M = m × J, N = n × K;
intra-group processors with J rows and K columns provided corresponding to the
respective sub-arrays and performing beam-forming with respect to reception signals
from the respective sub-arrays; and
a selection unit that selects intra-group processors with j rows ($j \leq J$) and k
columns ($k < K$) as a target from the intra-group processors with J rows and K columns
and includes a switch that connects the selected intra-group processor to the cable, the
selection being performed while shifting the selection target of the intra-group processors
in a column direction.
2. (Original) The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection unit selects intra-group processors with j rows and k columns as the target while shifting the selection target of the intra-group processors in a row direction.
3. (Previously Presented) The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection unit comprises a reception switch that selectively connects a reception signal from the intra-group processors with a reception beam former.

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4. (Previously Presented) The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection unit comprises a data switch that selectively supplies group focus data to the intra-group processors.
5. (Previously Presented) The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection unit comprises a power supply switch that selectively supplies a group power supply to the intra-group processors.
6. (Previously Presented) The ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the selection unit comprises a clock switch that selectively supplies a clock signal to the intra-group processors.